

AVA REGION I RULES

INTRODUCTION

The following rules and guidelines are set up to allow vaulters of all levels and capabilities to compete in a constructive manner at all AVA REGION I Competitions. The Region I “Specially Titled” classes such as “novice”, “advanced” and “modified” are to help encourage new vaulters to be a part of Regional Competitions and these rules. These rules and guidelines are not endorsed by the American Vaulting Association but do follow AVA rule guidelines as closely as possible, as they are designed to help vaulters graduate into AVA vaulting levels along with National and Inter-national Competitions.

If any club wishes to host an AVA recognized competition, they may do so by contacting the AVA and must do so in strict accordance with AVA rules as presented in the AVA Rule Book. The REGION I rules and guidelines are the standard that has been used in computing “Year End” High-Point Awards presented by the Region. The competition year begins at the end of the USEF, AVA National Vaulting Championships and goes through until the next year’s National Championships.

SECTION I

Recognized Competitions, Levels and Events

A. AVA and AVA REGION I - RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS

1. **All AVA REGION I Recognized Competitions** are held according to AVA and USEF rules except where AVA REGION I rules apply. For AVA or USEF recognized see those rule books.
2. **Responsibility of the hosting club:**
 - a. Request recognition from the AVA Region 1 Board
 - b. To invite all AVA Registered clubs within REGION I.
 - c. To collect all AVA REGION I fees and mail them to the AVA Region I Treasurer within 3 weeks.
 - d. To furnish copies the score to the AVA REGION I Scorekeeper for High-Point purposes within 3 weeks.

B. REGION I RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS MAY CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. **AVA Recognized Individual, Pas de Deux and Team Levels and Events:**
 - a. Individual **Gold** (*as per AVA*)
 - b. Individual **Silver** (*as per AVA*)
 - c. Individual **Bronze** (*as per AVA*)
 - d. Individual **Copper** (*new canter vaulters without a Canter Medal*). (*as per AVA*)
 - e. Individual **Trot** (*vaulters may hold a Trot Medal*) (*as per AVA*)
 - f. Individual **Preliminary Trot** (*vaulters without a Trot Medal*) (*as per AVA*)
 - h. **“A” Team, “B” Team, “C” Team and Trot Team** – 6 vaulters per team (*as per AVA*)
 - i. **2-Phase “Open”, “Preliminary” and “Trot” Teams** - 4 vaulters per team (*as per AVA*)
 - j. **Pas de Deux**, Freestyle on the horse (*as per AVA*)

2. **REGION I Recognized Individuals, Pas de Deux and Team Levels and Events:**
 - a. Open Individual Barrel Freestyle – open to anyone. (*AVA Guidelines*)
 - b. Preliminary Individual Barrel Freestyle – No silver or Gold vaulters (*AVA Guidelines*)
 - c. Trot Individual Barrel Freestyle – Trot Vaulters (*AVA Guidelines*)
 - d. Modified Canter Team – 4 to 6 vaulters (*Region I Rules*)
 - e. Modified Trot Team – 4 to 6 vaulters (*Region I Rules*)
 - f. Pas de Deux Barrel (*Region I Rules*)
 - g. Gamblers Choice – Vaulters from different clubs working together in a Barrel Pas de Deux Freestyle – Management will assign the vaulting pairs.
 - h. Green Horse – New Vaulting Horse earning a critique from the Judge
 - i. Special Pairs – Freestyle on Barrel consisting of one handicapped/Special Needs vaulter and one non-handicapped vaulter of any level.
3. **Competition Management classes:** Any class that the management wishes to offer with rules and judging criteria included in the prize list.

NOTE: The following are called “NOVICE” meaning...vaulters must have an assisted mount to be in this classification. (Region I Rules)

- a. **Individual Novice Trot** vaulters must have assisted mount with no deduction. Mount scored on form only. Spotters are allowed for compulsories and Freestyle but a deduction of up to 2 points from score if touched other than mount. All compulsories and Freestyle, horse and barrel allowed. (*Region I Rules*)
- b. **Individual Novice Advanced Walk** vaulters must have assisted mount with no deduction. Mount scored on form only. Spotters are allowed for compulsories and Freestyle but a deduction of up to 2 points from score if touched other than mount. All compulsories and Freestyle, horse and barrel allowed. (*Region I Rules*)
- c. **Individual Novice Walk** vaulters must have assisted mount with no deduction. Mount scored on form only. Spotters are allowed with no deductions for safety assistance in horse and barrel compulsories. For Horse Freestyle Spotters required. (*Region I Rules*)
- d. **Individual Novice Modified Walk** vaulters must have assisted mount and spotters required. No deductions for assistance. The Basic seat, Flag and Mill horse and barrel compulsories only. No horse or barrel Freestyle(*Region I Rules*)

SECTION II

Rules for eligibility for Region I Recognized Teams, Pas de Deux, and Individuals

A. TEAM EVENTS

(NOTE: For “A”, “B”, “C”, 2 phase and Trot Teams (See Current AVA RULE BOOK)

1. **Modified A/B Team Event:** (*Region I Rules*)
 - a. A Team consists of between 4 and 6 Vaulters who may have a canter medals. (May have a 7th vaulter alternate.)
 - b. Vaulters must compete at the canter level throughout the competition. (Compulsories as for A or B Team in AVA Rules.)
 - c. Compulsories as for A or B Team in AVA Rules. (*see Region I section on Timing requirements*).
 - d. 4-minute Freestyle section may be performed at the walk or canter, to the left. Vaulters may be assisted onto the horse if preformed at the walk. (*This is to avoid undue stress to the horse*). Two points will be deducted from final score for this Freestyle if performed at the walk.-
 - e. Same 4 to 6 vaulters must compete in Compulsory and Freestyle sections. (Alternate performs compulsories only.)
2. **Modified C Team Event:** (*Region I Rules*)

- a. A Team consists of between 4 and 6 Vaulters who may have a canter medals. (May have a 7th vaulter alternate.)
- b. Vaulters must compete at the canter level throughout the competition.
- c. Compulsories as for C Team in AVA Rules. *(see Region I section on Timing requirements)*.
- d. 4-minute Freestyle section may be performed at the walk or canter, to the left. Vaulters may be assisted onto the horse if preformed at the walk. *(This is to avoid undue stress to the horse)*. Two points ~~is~~ will be deducted from final score for this Freestyle if performed at the walk.
- e. Same 4 to 6 vaulters must compete in Compulsory and Freestyle sections. (Alternate performs compulsories only.)

3. Modified Trot Team Event: (Region I Rules)

- a. Teams consist of between 4 and 6 vaulters. Any combination of Trot and Preliminary Trot (May have a 7th vaulter alternate.)
Vaulters may hold a Trot Medal.
- b. Vaulters must compete at trot level throughout the competition.
- c. Compulsories as for Trot Team in AVA Rules. *(see AVA Region I section on Timing for time requirements)*.
- d. The 4 minute Freestyle section may be performed at the walk or trot to the left. One point is deducted from final score if Freestyle is performed at the walk. Vaulters may be assisted onto the horse if Freestyle is performed at the walk. *(To avoid undue stress to horse)*.
- e. Same 4 to 6 vaulters must compete in compulsories and Freestyle section. (Alternate performs compulsories only.)

TEAM COMPULSORY AND FREESTYLE TIMING REGULATIONS

TROT AND CANTER COMPULSORY EVENTS: Timing starts when the first vaulter takes the handles and ends when the last vaulter touches the ground in the dismount. Each Vaulter will Vault on, perform first 4 compulsories and vault off, and the same for the last 3 compulsories. Any Compulsory exercise(s) performed after the bell rings will receive a "0" *(Sliding time scale for teams with 4 to 6 vaulters.) (Region I Rules)*

Canter Teams COMPULSORIES		Trot Teams COMPULSORIES	
6 Vaulters	6 min.	6 Vaulters	8 min.
5 Vaulters	5 min.	5 Vaulters	6 min. 40 sec.
4 Vaulters	4 min.	4 Vaulters	5min. 20 sec.

TROT AND CANTER FREESTYLE EVENTS: 4 Minute Freestyle

B. PAS DE DEUX EVENTS:

- 1. **Pas de Deux Barrel Freestyle** –*(any gender combination)*. Time 90 sec. *(Region I Rules)*
 - a. footing to be same as horse arena.
 - b. Freestyle divided into Level one (open to all level vaulters) and level 2 (highest level vaulter is not more than trot level)
- 2. **SPECIAL PAIRS:** This event consists of one Handicapped vaulter and one Trot or Canter Non-handicapped vaulter (any gender combination). It is a 2 minute freestyle routine performed on the barrel.

C. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:

NOVICE VAULTING RULES

The Rules are set up to allow vaulters of all ages who are not yet able to mount the horse and vault at AVA Recognized levels of vaulting to compete at vaulting competitions. The following Novice classes follow AVA rules for Trot Compulsories and Freestyle with the noted exceptions. In all Novice Classes, vaulters may not hold an AVA Medal (novice pin excepted), vaulters may not compete in any other events of a higher level during the competition, and vaulter must have an assisted mount on to the horse or barrel which is scored on form only. Degree of difficulty for freestyle exercises is based on levels in the current FEI Rule Book. Horse Events consist of one round of Compulsories and a 1 minute Freestyle, with the horse moving to the left. Barrel Events consist of one round of compulsories and a 1 minute freestyle with the Barrel facing to the left.

NOVICE TROT: The Horse Events are performed at the trot. For Horse and Barrel events freestyle moves are limited to levels E and M exercises. Spotters may be present for compulsories and freestyle, but the vaulter will receive a 0 for any exercise for which spotter assists with the exception of the mandatory assisted mount.

NOVICE ADVANCED WALK: The Horse Events are performed at the walk. For Horse and Barrel events freestyle moves are limited to levels E and M exercises. Spotters may be present for compulsories and freestyle, but the vaulter will receive a 0 for any exercise for which spotter assists with the exception of the mandatory assisted mount.

NOVICE WALK: The Horse Events are performed at the walk. For Horse and Barrel events freestyle moves are limited to level E exercises only. Spotters allowed with no deduction for assistance.

NOVICE MODIFIED WALK: This level has no freestyle. Compulsories consist of Basic Seat, Flag and Mill. Spotters are allowed with no deduction for assistance.

REGION I AWARDS

“YEAR END HIGH POINT AWARDS”

The REGION I Annual High Point Awards are based on the Recognized Regional 1 Competitions and National Championships. The high point season starts after National Champions and continues through the following National Champions. High Point Scores are determined by averaging each Individual’s top three over all horse event scores from the season. A vaulter must compete in the same class in a minimum of three competitions in the season to be eligible for a High Point Award in that class.

High Point Awards will be given to the highest scoring Male and Female in all Individual levels except Novice Modified Walk.. If a vaulter moves up a level he or she is eligible for awards at the new level using scores earned at the lower level earlier in the year, except for vaulters who advanced in Levels from Trot to Canter or Novice to Trot within the year.

RECOGNIZED COMPETITION AWARDS

Awards for all Individual Events at a Recognized Competition are to be separated into male and female classifications in all levels with exception of Novice level classes. All Novice entrants must be divided into groups of five and placed into divisions “A” through “Z” according to scores. These divisions are created so the vaulters and their families recognize their ranking in this event. Each division has awards of 1st through 5th.